(v) Tamas (vi) Mirza Ghalib and (vii) Uttar Ramayan separately?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): The gross advertisement revenue earned by Doordarshan from the telecast of each of the following serials is as under:—

Name of the Serial	Amount of revenue earned
Mahabharat	Rs. 5742.00 lakhs
Ramayan	Rs. 2440.00 lakhs
Buniyad	Rs. 887.40 lakhs
Tamas	Rs. 13.60 lakhs
Mirza Ghalib	Rs. 103.25 lakhs
Uttar Ramayan	Rs. 733.00 lakhs

Similar information in respect of the serial 'Hum Log' is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Better delivery of letters by post

282. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are likely to be taken by Government to ensure better delivery of letters;

(b) whether Government are aware that the general public is concerned about non-delivery of letters, as also late and tardy service;

(c) what are the measures being taken to improve the service and increase the credibility of postal services;

(d) whether it is a fact that even registered letters are not promptly and properly delivered; and

(e) if so, what steps are likely to be taken by Government to assure the public of better and honest service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) to (e) There have been occasional instances of delay/non delivery of mails and registered articles. The following steps are taken to avoid such instances:

(i) The matter is immediately enquired into.

(ii) Deficiencies noticed are immediately corrected.

(iii) Collection, sorting and transmission of mails including the registered articles are constantly under review.

(iv) Surprise visits/checks are undertaken by the Supervising Officer.

(v) Better, proper and strict supervision is also ensured.

Private courier services becoming very popular due to inefficiency of postal department

283. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the private courier services are becoming very popular due to inefficiency of postal department where dak is not delivered in time and there are instances of postmen destroying letters; and

(b) if so, the measures Government propose to take to streamline the department and increase efficiency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The Government is aware of the existence of private courier services in the country. But the growth of the private couriers is not just due to the alleged inefficiency of

the postal services. The operation of private couriers is the result of a new demand for express mail service from the business and industrial sections. The traditional mail services were not fully equippd to meet the new demand of the market segment, but is now equipping itself for it.

There are instances of failure to deliver mail in time. But they are not so widespread as to give any ground for generalisation Most of the Dak is delivered in time. No instances of destruction of mails have come to notice.

(b) The Post's reply to the competition from the couriers is the new service called 'Speed Post' which is bcoming more and more popular as reflected in the increase in its annual turnover from Rs. 2.7 crores in 1987 to Rs. 8.4 crores in 1989.

The arrangement for mail transmission and distribution are constantly reviewed and revised whenever necessary. Besides this, the Department of Posts is making use of technology in selected areas to improve efficiency and productivity.

Persons killed by terrorists

284. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed by terrorists during last three months, Statewise; and

(b) the number of security-men killed or injured during the last three months in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

New Indo-Soviet Accord

285. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:
SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:
SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA:
SHRI PRABHAKAR B. KORE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the recent Indo-Soviet Accord;

(b) what are the achievements in socio-economic and political fields;

(c) whether Government of India propose to bring Perestroika or Clasnost in different form in India; and

(d) if so, what would be the plan thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b) During the Prime Minister's official visit to the Soviet Union on 23—26 July, 1990 a Joint Statement, a Memorandum of Understanding on economic issues, and an Information Agreement were signed. Copies of these documents are laid on the Table of the House. (See Appendiv CLV, Annexure No. 8) Comprehensive discussions were held in the traditional spirit of warmth and friendliness covering both bilateral and international issues. The Soviet leadership expressed their "full understanding and support" for India's stand on Kashmir.

(c) and (d) "Perestroika" and "glasnost" are Russian words that describe the ongoing policy of restructuring and openness in the Soviet Union. India has to evolve its own policies in accordance with its specific requirements and conditions.